



## ***Child Development Policy Advisory Committee***

**915 Capitol Mall, Room 336, Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 653-3725 [www.cdpac.ca.gov](http://www.cdpac.ca.gov)**

### **BACKGROUND**

The Child Development Policy Advisory Committee is a citizen's review board comprised of appointed members - parents, public members, family child care and child care center operators - and representatives of five State departments. The Committee meets monthly and provides a public forum for consideration of issues affecting the early care and education and out-of-school care of all of California's children. All meetings are open to the public.

***Since its inception, the primary role of the Committee has been:***

***To provide public policy recommendations to the Governor, the Legislature and relevant State Departments concerning child care and development, and***

***To encourage child development policies and programs that are long range, developmentally appropriate and socially advanced.***

The Child Development Policy Advisory Committee was created as the Governor's Advisory Committee (GAC) on Preschool and Educational Programs in 1965 by the enactment of AB 1331 (Unruh).

Initially charged with continually evaluating the effectiveness of the preschool programs and reporting at each general session of the Legislature, the Committee also served to advise State Departments on the establishment of maximum cost standards for preschool programs. In 1970, subsidized child care was expanded to include children's centers and child care programs. As a result, the Committee's purview also expanded.

Throughout the years the Committee has researched topics and provided public policy recommendations on issues ranging from early brain development and perinatal substance abuse to employer tax credits and child care facilities development and financing.

California's implementation of Welfare Reform, through CalWORKs legislation, increased the demand for all types of child care as well as the requirements imposed on Local Child Care Planning Councils (LPCs). In 1997, the Committee assisted in the development of guidelines for LPCs, which now operate in all 58 of California's counties.

### ***Committee Principles:***

- Child care and development programs should be long range, developmentally appropriate, and socially appropriate.
- In recognition of early brain research, state policies must identify the tremendous potential of all children to learn and the critical need to develop and support child care and development options that meet the broad array of children's cognitive, social and emotional needs.
- All families should have access to affordable and high quality child care.
- Parents, schools, community planners and organizations, employers and businesses need to become partners in an effort to anticipate and meet child care needs.
- The positive, long-term impacts that child care programs have for the well-being of children must be understood by policy makers and administrators.
- Child care providers deserve respect and support so they can offer children a high quality, developmentally appropriate child care experience.

### ***Committee Vision:***

- All children and families in California will have access to high quality, affordable child care and development programs that facilitate children's cognitive, social and emotional growth and that recognize the importance of early brain development.

### ***Specifically, the Committee acts to:***

- Advise and assist the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Secretary of the Office for Education, the Governor and the Legislature on the development of the State Plan, the implementation of the Federal Child Care Development Block Grant and the review of all child care and development issues;
- Provide ongoing coordination and communication to Local Child Care Planning Councils, to facilitate activities and provide technical assistance as needed;
- Review work related programs and develop new strategies to better meet the child care needs of working families;
- Develop and distribute information relative to employer-supported child care;

- Provide a public forum to address issues pertaining to young children as they arise, including special needs, licensing, child protection, parental choice, consumer education, local child care planning and data collection procedures;
- Identify successful models throughout the State related to both child care planning and programs;
- Assist the Department of Education in developing and reviewing guidelines for the administration of public and private school-age programs;
- Advise the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Governor on school-age child care policy and program implementation;
- Collaborate with the State Department of Education, the State Department of Health Services, the Legislature and the Office of the Governor to develop a specified plan to improve the delivery and provision of nourishment to the state's children in need of supplemental nutrition; and,
- Provide input and consultation to the Department of Education on program priorities governing the ranking of applications on the Child Development Loan Guarantee and Direct Loan Funds.

### WORKGROUPS

In order to perform its mandates, the Child Development Policy Advisory Committee establishes workgroups to focus on specific issues. The workgroups may be co-chaired by members of the Committee or professionals in the child and family services community. The following are workgroups currently established by the Committee:

- Early Childhood Development and Brain Development
- Local Planning Leadership Conference
- Child Care Mental Health Services
- Framework for a Master Plan for Early Care and Education and Out-Of-School Care

### COMMITTEE PROJECTS

In addition to fulfilling its statutory mandates, the Committee's work includes the following projects:

**Legislative Action Project:** Orients legislators and their staff to early childhood care and development issues through policy manuals, report summaries and issue briefs.

**Facilities Loan Project:** Beginning in 1/2001, the Committee will assist the Department of Housing and Community Development in marketing the Child Care Facilities Financing Program.

**Clearinghouse:** Although some publications are still available for purchase, the Child Development Policy Advisory Committee is updating its website to include all of the most frequently requested materials. For a complete list of information relating to local child care planning, legislation, minutes of our meetings and links to organizations relating to children and families, please visit our web site at [www.cdpac.ca.gov](http://www.cdpac.ca.gov).

### COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee is comprised of twenty-two appointed citizens and five State department representatives. The Committee's mandate directs the following representation:

- Parent and Parent with Child in Subsidized Care
- Public Members
- Public School Children's Center Teacher
- School Administrator
- Private Education
- Proprietary Child Care
- Family Child Care
- State Board Of Education
- Private Health Care
- Child Welfare
- Community Action Agency
- Education, School-Age Child Care Programs
- California Department of Education (CDE)
- Department of Health Services (DHS)
- Department of Developmental Services (DDS)
- California Department of Social Services (CDSS)
- Employment Development Department (EDD)

#### Board Officers and Executive Committee

<b>Chair:</b>	Kathleen Malaske-Samu
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Marie Kanne Poulsen, Ph. D.
<b>Secretary:</b>	Dennis Mooney
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Robert Orsi
<b>Former Chair:</b>	Dianne Philibosian, Ph.D.

**Executive Director:** Kay Ryan

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### SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR 2001

The Child Development Policy Advisory Committee meets on the first Thursday of the month. Meeting dates for 2001 are as follows:

February 15 – at the <i>Local Child Care Planning Conference</i>	
March 1	September 6
April 5	October 4
May 3	November 1
June 7	December 6

**Child Development Policy Advisory Committee  
915 Capitol Mall, Room 336, Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone (916) 653-3725; Fax (916) 446-9643  
Office hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday - Friday**

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